

of the Disclosure

An apparatus and method for making n different types of optical amplifiers on one manufacturing line, n being equal to 2 or more. The method includes providing a supply of at least four functional groups of sub-units for each of the circuits which
5 comprise each of the optical amplifiers to be made, where at least one functional group contains at least n different types of sub-units, and where each of the sub-units in three of the functional groups includes a pluggable optical connector half and where each of the sub-units of the fourth of the functional groups includes three pluggable optical
connector halves. The method further includes selecting a specific sub-unit from each
10 of the four functional groups and plugging together each of the selected sub-units to form an optical amplifier having the desired specification.

1